

TUESDAY.....AUGUST 1, 1882.

CHATHAM.

HOW YEAT'S RESPISE WAS RECEIVED—A PLAIN STATEMENT OF FACTS—THE PRISONER'S CONFESSIONS, &c.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

JULY 28, 1882.

where I pen this, but this is another road to the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad to elevate these roadways and many others that span their road, and do it at once. This poor man, married and with a family, was only two months in their employ; was with his face towards Staunton when the train coming down the steep grade there rapidly, he was at once arrested by DEATH.

Fisherville, Va., July 28, 1882.

WINCHESTER.

A MAHONE REPUBLICAN MEETING OF TWENTY PARTICIPANTS.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

To-day was the day fixed upon for the execution of Yeats for the murder of young Adkerson, but on yesterday Special Messenger T. E. Drinkard arrived from Richmond and delivered to Sheriff Overby a respite of the sentence until Friday, August 4th. In anticipation, however, that the execution would take place to-day, a number of persons from various sections of the county came to town with the hope of seeing the prisoner on his way to the gallows; but though disappointed in this, they were not entirely unrewarded, as occasionally they got a glimpse of the doomed man as he looked out on the street through the iron bars of his cell.

Surprise was expressed by some at the action of the Governor, as they appeared to think it indicative of still further leniency towards the prisoner, but the general opinion was that upon an investigation of the matter the Governor would not interfere with the verdict of the jury, which, upon an appeal, had been approved by the highest court of the State. It was stated in the Dispatch several days ago that among the grounds urged to the Governor for clemency by Major Yeats, the father of the condemned man, and Mr. D. H. Pannill, who accompanied him, were that at the time of the trial the father was confined to his bed from sickness; that the prisoner made a poor defence and had no one to assist him until his father recovered, which was only a week or so ago; and, furthermore, that a great change in the public sentiment of the county had set in favor of the prisoner under the light of recent events.

The facts are that Major Yeats, at the time the murder was committed, was confined to his bed from sickness; but was present during the whole time of his son's trial, and was up and going about for more than a month prior thereto. He employed as able counsel to defend his son as he could have gotten in this section—to wit, Mr. Robert H. Tredway, of this city, and Messrs. Pease and Harris of Martinsburg, and it is said by those able to judge that considering the one-sidedness of the case they made a very able and ingenious defense. There were twenty-three witnesses summoned for the defence, and out of this number but barely one was examined.

In regard to a change having taken place in the sentiment of the people, this is so; but that change is decidedly against the prisoner. Amongst all there has been, and perhaps is now, some small sympathy for him, but this last attempt of the people to leave a stain on the character of his wife is regarded by the great majority of rich-thinking people of the county as the crowning act of infamy to a life already black with crime.

For weeks before his trial he was besieged by his counsel if he had any reason to suspect any undue intimacy between young Adkerson and his wife either before or after his marriage to speak out; in fact, they told him that the only way to save his neck from the gallows was to use some such argument, but he declared to the fact that he had no ground for such a suspicion, and that young Adkerson was one of the best friends he ever had.

Within the last few weeks, however, he has made a confession—in fact, a half dozen or more—two written ones and the others to various persons who have conversed with him, every one of which is different. In the first one made to his counsel, Mr. Tredway, written and signed by himself, he declares substantially as follows:

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

HALIFAX COUNTY.

ITEMS ABOUT THE DAN-RIVER ASSOCIATION—HIGH HILL, HENRY CLAY, AND UNCLE BUCK THAXTON—PROFESSOR W. L. HARRIS—REV. THOMAS KING—CROPS.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

MIDWAY, VA., July 28, 1882.

The Dan-River Baptist Association has just closed a three-days' session at Aaron's Church, in the southeastern part of this county. There were present from abroad Rev. A. B. Brown, of Richmond College; Rev. H. H. Hatchet, of the Religious Herald; Rev. Dr. Goodwin, and Professor J. T. Averett, of Danville. Rev. H. G. Crews is the pastor of the church. Rev. G. W. Bell preached the introductory sermon, and sermons were preached in the Association by Rev. Dr. Brown and Rev. Dr. Goodwin. Two churches were received into the Association—the church at South Boston, which had recently been organized, and Grace church, which had for a long time remained unconnected with any Association; and a move was reported as being made for the union of two of the churches and the erection of a house of worship at Scottsburg. It was also reported that such improvements had been made in the structure of the Wim's-Creek house of worship that the building had really been fashioned into a new house. The letters from the churches showed that not so many had been baptized as had been baptized the year before, that progress in Sunday-school work had been made, and that liberal contributions had been made for the several boards of the General Association. Mr. J. T. Lacy, collector, was paid the amount of his salary and a legacy made upon the churches for the salary of the Wim's-Creek house of worship.

In 1850, when Dr. Avrett, the menu

of the Dan-River Association, was introduced to Henry Clay, Mr. Clay inquired,

what part of Virginia he was from.

Mr. Avrett replied that he was from the Roanoke Valley.

"From what county?" inquired Mr. Clay.

"High Hill," said Mr. Avrett.

"High Hill is in that country."

"You make speeches and give medicine to every one you meet with resistance, and have refused, and said he would do so before he would do so; that he (Yeats) pulled out his pistol, and that Adkerson said to him, 'You are not going to shoot me with that pistol'; that he then placed it to his head and fired, and that Adkerson said, 'You must retract that or I will shoot you'; and that he replied, 'I advise you not to marry Miss Rorer; if you do you will be —'; that he said to Adkerson, 'Do you know that to be a fact?'; he replied, 'No, but I have heard it'; that he then said to Adkerson, 'You are a liar,' and the Adkerson said, 'You must retract that or I will shoot you'; and that he replied, 'Let slip, I'm ready'; that at this point they were interrupted by some one coming up, and ceased their conversation; but the next day after his marriage he went to Sycamore, and said to Adkerson, 'I want you to repeat what you said the other day'; that Adkerson declined, and requested him to walk down the railroad track, and they would settle it; 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